Development of International Airport in Kerala

1566. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA:
SHRI THENNALA BALA-KRISHNA PILLAI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme under Government's consideration for the development of international airport in Kerala;

(b) if so, what is its present position; and

(c) keeping in view the heavy flow of passengers to Kerala from Gulf countries and some Western countries whether Government would consider the immediate development of the international airport in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) Kerala has already an international airport at Trivandrum. Keeping in view the demand from passengers from the Malabar Region, the existing Calicut airport infrastructure is being upgraded to meet the requirements of limited international operations of the national carriers to/from the Gulf region. Cochin International Airport Limited, a Company under the control of the Government of Kerala has embarked on a project for the development of an airport of international standards at Nedumbassery (near Cochin) with private funding.

Amount of advertisements given by DAVP to Newspapers in Gujarat

1567. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of advertisements given by the DAVP for the last three years to big, medium and small newspapers published in Gujarat;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a disparity in the allotment of advertisements in regional language of Gujarat as compared to other regional languages; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to be taken by Government to remove this disparity?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) The information is given below:

Category	1993-94	1994-95	1995-%
Big	72,26,45		62,30,364
Medium	1		1,07,82,075
Small	23,66,21		19,22,157
	6		44,30,334

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Recommendations of Tenth Finance Commission

1568. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the recommendations of 10th Finance Commission;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to make additional allocation to the States which have not been funded adequately; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to consider additional allocation to States like Orissa which has not been receiving aid and assistance from the Centre adequately?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission (TFC) the total estimated devolution of resources to States as indicated by the Commission is Rs. 226643 crores for the five years

period 1995—2000 as compared to the total estimated transfer of Rs. 106036 crores recommended by the Ninth Finance Commission over the preceding quinquennium 1990—95. The recommendations of TFC have already been accepted by the Government of India. Accordingly the devolution of resources from Centre to States during 1995—2000 would be as per the recommendation of TFC. A copy of the Report of TFC alongwith a copy of the Explanatory Memorandum as to the action taken on the recommendations made by the Commission was placed on the Table of both Houses of Parliament on 14th March, 1995. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to give additional allocation to individual States over what was recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission.

Government Measures to Tackle Growing Population Problem

1569. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that India today with present population of 267 people per square kilometre and rate of growth, would reach the one billion mark and by the year 2020 India would overtake China as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 12.7.96;

(b) whether the problem of population explosion has been totally ignored by Government while formulating the common minimum programme; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government would be able to deal with other unending allied problems like unemployment, housing, social justice programme etc. without concentrating on popolation control measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) According to the 1991 Census, the population density is 274 persons per square kilometre. The population of India is projected to cross the 1 billion mark by 2001 A.D.

(b) and (c) Reduction of the rate of growth of population in India is a priority area for the Government. The National Family Welfare Programme has been able to bring' about significant reduction in birth rate, from 41.7 per thousand population over the decade 1951—61 to 28.7 in 1994.

Objectives of NFDC

1570. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what were the objectives for which NFDC was set up;

(b) how far these objectives have been fulfilled;

(c) whether it is a fact that NFDC is showing the same film twice/thrice on Doordarshan; and

(d) if not, the details of the films shown on Doordarshan at the instance of NFDC during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BOADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) The National Film Development Corporation Ltd. (NFDC) was set up with the purpose of financing and promoting good cinema and promoting the integrated develop-ment of the Indian film industry. By and large, these objectives have been fulfilled.

(c) Films are repeated only on the Movie Club which is a, satellite movie channel. Repetition of films on satellite movie channels is necessary to cater to various audiences for whom different timings are suitable.

(d) Films are also telecast on Doordar-shan-I, Doordarshan-II, Doordarshan-III at the instance of NFDC and the information for the last 6 months is given in the Statement.